Screening of Taiwanese and South African Films

444. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:
SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allow screening of films from Taiwan and South Africa.

(b) whether it is a fact that in the 12th International Film Festival of India, a Aaiwanese Film "Daughter of the Nile" was screened; and

(c) if so, from which channel the said film came to the country as there is no diplomatic relations between India and Taiwan?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Under the Import Control Laws there are no restrictions on importation *per se* of films from Taiwan. Import and screening are, however, subject to normal import control regulations and certification procedures. In the case of South Africa, there are restrictions on import. A film titled "Mapantsula", a UK/Australia/South Africa co-production on the theme of anti-apartheid was screened in the 12th International Film Festival on the basis of exemption under Import Control regulations for Festival films.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Films are normally received through trade channels or from Right holders. This film was received from M/s. Jane Balfour Films Ltd., London, international distributors in U.K.

Self sufficiency of Steel in the Country

445. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to stated:

(a) by what time the country is likely to produce its total steel requirement indigenously; and

(b) whether immediate renovation of steel plants are needed for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) It cannot be exactly indicated as to when the country would produce its total steel requirements. However, constant efforts are being made to maximise indigenous production. Modernisation and expansion of the existing steel plants is one of the means to increase production and it is receiving due attention.

Telecast of Programme on Safdar Hasmi

446. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had instructed the Doordarshan not to telecast any programme on Safdar Hasmi, a playright and actor who was murdered on the 1st January, 1989 in Sahibabad, Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.